

CLUSTER AGENDA
March 24th, 2016
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm
Lake Worth Campus

ITEM 1. Approval of minutes from October 13th, 2015 meeting.

Discussion: None

Data/data source: 10//13/15 Minutes presented.

Action: Motion made by Dave Rossman and seconded by Lori Crane and was unanimously approved.

ITEM 2. District Item 1: How can your cluster support textbook affordability? Please provide your top three recommendations. Also, list initiatives underway such as open source textbooks, out of copyright materials, textbook rentals etc.

Discussion: The cluster has several recommendations:

1. The college *could* review institutional policies relating to the bookstore in an effort to improve affordability.
2. Professors *could* consider a “no textbook required” option for courses when possible.
3. Books *could* be made available to students with rental/lease and eBook options.
4. Cluster *could* continue its policy of reviewing textbook costs and options every three years.
5. “Libguides” (including scholarly articles and online/electronic resources) *could* be considered in lieu of published textbooks when possible.

Data/data source: District Agenda

Action: Motion approved by acclimation.

District ITEM 2. FOR CLUSTERS THAT HAVE GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES

As a cluster, please discuss the data provided to your chair and answer the questions below. Your cluster discussion should be included in the minutes if you are able to answer the questions today. If sub-committees are formed for follow-up, please enter that information in the minutes and submit any decisions made after today to IRE by April 29, 2016 (send email to Karen Pain at paink@palmbeachstate.edu).

1. How do your current cycle results indicate your assessment instrument is measuring your selected outcome **and** that you have selected a reasonable benchmark?
2. In reflecting on this process and results, what changes might be necessary to the outcomes, instruments, implementation, or benchmarks for any of your courses, in order to move forward in a meaningful way?

Discussion: Upon reflection of the General Education Assessment process and results generated cluster members determined that our learning outcomes may need to be revised in order for them to be more accurately assessed. We believe that we can find the best method for assessing the outcome after revisions are completed and move forward in a more meaningful way.

Data/data source: District Agenda/IRE Gen Ed Assessment Data

Action: SPC 1017 Course Learning Outcomes to be reviewed (see Item 3).

ITEM 3. Revision of SPC 1017 Learning Outcomes

Discussion: Cluster Learning Outcomes subcommittee members provided a list of the current L.O's for SPC 1017, along with suggested revisions based on extensive review of courses at sister colleges. Members suggested ways to improve the language of several different outcomes in order to improve its focus and applicability to assessment. Numerous iterations were discussed and Marcie Pachter agreed to assemble additional input from members via email for discussion and approval at a later date.

Data/data source: SPC 1017 Learning Outcomes from the Course Description and draft of new Learning Outcomes.

Action: Marcie Pachter will email Clusters members for input on revising SPC 1017 LO's.

ITEM 4. Speech Contest

Discussion Dave Rossman reminded members that the annual speech contest is set for Tuesday, April 19 at 6:30 p.m. in HT 103 at the Boca Raton Campus. The topic selected was "Should controversial speakers be invited to speak on college campuses?" Dave will select judges for the contest and meet with Diana Sulewski from Cengage regarding prizes and coordinate other details.

Data Source: n/a

Action: Dave Rossman to complete contest coordination.

ITEM 5. Textbook Review for SPC 1017

Data Source: n/a

Discussion: Marcie Pachter reminded the cluster that we are entering year three of our agreement requiring all Adjunct faculty teaching SPC 1017 to use COMM3. Victor Gent offered to research text book options and request desk copies for faculty members to review.

Data Source: n/a

Action: Victor Gent to research textbook options and request desk copies for faculty review.

ITEM 6. Cluster Chair and Scribe for 2016-2017

Discussion: Marcie Pachter eagerly informed members that her term as Chair and Steve Frishman's term as scribe is complete at the end of this term. In keeping with cluster tradition, Steve Frishman graciously accepted the mantel of Chair for 2016/17 and Sharon Lizbeth Martin will magnanimously assume the role of Scribe. Members effusively thanked outgoing Chair Marcie Pachter for her wise and steady leadership this year.

Action: (None)

OTHER. Adjournment by acclimation at 3:30 pm.

Attendance:

Lori Crane

Marcie Pachter (Chair)

Steve Frishman (Scribe),

Michelle Biferie,

David Childers,

Leonie Escoffery

Victor Gent

Kim Kamuca

Sharon L. Martin

Dave Rossman

Megan Tomei

Guests: (None)

Absent: (None)

Submitted by:

Steve Frishman, Scribe

c. Minutes Distribution List